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1996/03/05



**EXCERPT
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APR 22 1998
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E10 P
United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

ACTION MEMORANDUM
S/S
CONFIDENTIAL

DECL: 3/5/06

TO: The Secretary

THROUGH: P - Mr. Tarnoff

FROM: EAP - Kent Wiedemann, Acting

SUBJECT: Approval of Telegram to Beijing Proposing April 22
Meeting in Geneva with PRC Vice Premier/Foreign
Minister Qian Qichen

ISSUE FOR DECISION

Whether to approve the attached telegram to Beijing
proposing that PRC Vice Premier/Foreign Minister Qian Qichen
meet with you on April 22 in Geneva..

ESSENTIAL FACTORS

It is important to meet with PRC Vice Premier Qian between
the March 23 Taiwan presidential election and what is expected
to be a fierce MFN debate in May.

An April 22 meeting would follow your participation in the
Nuclear Safety Summit in Moscow. Qian has told us that he will
be in Europe April 10-20, so he might agree to delay his return
to Beijing.

The next likely opportunity for a meeting is at the ASEAN
Regional Forum Ministerial and the ASEAN Post-Ministerial
Conference July 23-25.

RECOMMENDATION

That you approve transmittal of this telegram to U.S.
Embassy Beijing.

Approve _____

Disapprove _____

Attachment:

Draft Telegram to Beijing

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CONFIDENTIAL

Drafter: EAP/CM:Roe
SECMPOL 14771 76959

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Clearance(s): EAP/CM:JABader

OK for JAB

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